Amendments

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as set forth below.

Claims 1- 4 (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) An agricultural machine having a plurality of crop transport units, wherein the crop transport units convey crop streams in opposite directions and are spaced apart to define a crop through-gap where the opposing crop streams are received, and having a cleaning device having a forced-draught fan, further comprising:

an exhaust fan located after the cleaning device, such that the exhaust fan and the forced-draught fan produce an air stream which is directed from the forced-draught fan to the exhaust fan, thereby creating an air flow in the through-gap of the crop transport units;

wherein a speed of the air stream produced by the forced-draught fan and exhaust fan,

~~The agricultural machine according to claim 3, wherein the air stream speed~~ is adjusted by varying a rotational speed of ~~the~~ one of the said forced draught-fan or said exhaust fan.

6. (Original) The agricultural machine according to claim 3, further including:

at least one air speed measuring device for measuring an air speed, located between the crop transport units; and

a control and regulating device for receiving the air speed from the at least one air speed measuring device and regulating the air speed.

7. (Currently Amended) An agricultural machine having a plurality of crop transport units wherein the crop transport units convey crop streams in opposite directions and are spaced apart to define a crop through-gap where the opposing crop streams are received, and having a cleaning device having a forced-draught fan before the cleaning device, further comprising:

an exhaust fan located after the cleaning device such that the exhaust fan and the forced-draught fan produce an air stream which is directed from the forced-draught fan to the exhaust fan, thereby creating an air flow in the through-gap of the straw walker step;

wherein the forced-draught fan and exhaust fan generate an air stream having a speed;

at least one air speed measuring device for measuring said air stream speed, located between the crop transport units;

a control and regulating device for receiving the air stream speed from the at least one air stream speed measuring device and regulating said air stream;

~~The agricultural machine according to claim 6,~~ wherein the control and regulating device is programmed with a preset target speed value, compares the measured air stream speed to the preset target speed value and sends an output speed change value to one of said forced draught fan or said ~~the~~ exhaust fan to adjust ~~the exhaust~~ said fan's rotational speed, thereby adjusting the speed of the air stream to substantially equal the preset target speed value.

8. (Original) The agricultural machine according to claim 7, wherein the preset target speed value is a function of crop type.

9. (Original) The agricultural machine according to claim 7, wherein the preset target speed value is defined as a function of crop moisture.

Claims 10-23 (Cancelled).

24. (New) The agricultural machine according to claim 7, wherein said preset target speed valve is selectable by a user.

25. (New) The agricultural machine according to claim 5, wherein said forced draught fan has at least two exhaust ducts.

26. (New) The agricultural machine according to claim 25, wherein at least one exhaust duct is disposed to generate an air flow through said through-gap.

26. (New) The agricultural machine according to claim 25, wherein at least one exhaust duct is disposed to generate an air flow through said through-gap.